SEPTEMBER 11, 1779. THE NUMBER 31.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

WILLIAMSBURG: PRINTED BY DIXON & NICOLSON.

TO THE PUBLICK.

AT a time when our minds overflow with gratitude for the many signal interpositions of Divine Providence in favour of our difficult and glorious struggle for every thing dear to men (bleſſings we have often aſſembled by authority, at places of publick worſhip humbly to acknowledge and implore the continuance of) great indeed was my ſurpriſe and chagrin at reading the contents of a bill propoſed to the Aſſembly in their laſt ſeſſion, and ſince printed, which under the ſpecious garb and title of "Eſtabliſhing Religious Freedom," propoſes to diſcontinue all publick religious worſhip, and to tolerate the propagation of Atheiſm, and every degree of impiety which the wickedneſs of individuals may ſuggeſt: As a Chriſtian and friend to ſociety, I will endeavour to extract and expoſe the covert poiſon of this performance, as the beſt way to counteract and prevent its effects. The long preamble, in which we have the principles of a Deiſt, contains a mixture of truth and errour, but being wholly ſelfiſh and unſocial, is therefore inconcluſive to prove the propriety of the law.

It is very remarkable that after this laboured appearance of advocation for the freedom of the mind, the author ſhould in his laſt clauſe betray an inclination, if he had power, to bind all men in future, even the legiſlature, from the like power of judging of this law, or making any alteration in it. Solon procured a ten years duration to his laws by a voluntary baniſhment from Athens for that term, and Lycurgus perpetuity to his, by the like exile of himſelf from Sparta for life after they had procured from their reſpective ſtates an oath not to alter the laws till their return. The author of the preſent bill, probably not relishing the means they uſed, has contented himſelf with entering a caveat againſt any alteration, fortified with this declaration "That the rights therein "aſſerted are of the natural rights of mankind."

Theſe rights pompouſly founded on many occaſions, are often, and here particularly, miſapplied in reaſoning upon the ſocial rights and duties of man. The great Creator in his donation to man of the earth and all things in and upon it, made men as independent of each other, as with us an ordinary tenant in common is of his companion. Each individual had a right to occupy whatever he found vacant, but could not without injuſtice diſturb the pre-occupation of another; had men continued to act in conformity to theſe rules, ſocieties themſelves would have been unneceſſary, and of courſe all rules civil or religious for their government: But this ſtate of ſimplicity and innocence was of ſhort duration; the weak became a prey to the ſtrong, the ignorant to the crafty and ſubtile, and peace, ſecurity and happineſs were only to be hoped for in the aſſociation of individuals, combining their ſtrength for the attainment of theſe ends, by forming a ſufficient barrier againſt foreign violence and domeſtick fraud: In this ſocial compact then, the enquiry is, not what is the right of each individual diſtinctly conſidered, but what is the collective intereſt, or will moſt probably effect the great purpoſes of the union? Since he who ſhall expect from ſociety the benefit of protection, without yielding what is neceſſary of his natural rights, is as unreaſonable, as if he ſhould deſire to purchaſe a great eſtate without paying any conſideration for it: Beſides that if each individual is left to his own judgment and freedom of will and action, ſince theſe will be influenced by the ſame paſſions as formerly, fraud and injuſtice would ſoon defeat the very purpoſe of forming ſocieties. The extreme limits of what men are ſuppoſed to yield to ſociety of their natural rights hath been the ſubject of much ſpeculation, but every candid enquirer after truth muſt admit, that each yields thus much, *To ſubmit and conform to what a majority ſhall determine to be for the common good, and ſhall eſtabliſh as a general rule of action*; true and genuine liberty conſiſting, not in every individual's having a right to do as he pleaſes, becauſe his will is inſuſceptible of reſtraint, but in every members having a vote in fixing the common rule of conduct, and ſharing equally all benefits and burthens; when a majority have fixed the rule, every one by conforming to that may ſit and enjoy himſelf under his vine and his fig-tree ſecure of life, liberty and property, at leaſt as far as the ſanctions of laws have power to reſtrain the licentious; happy conſtitution, ſurely well worth purchaſing by the reſtraint of an unruly, turbulent will! In forming theſe rules, the members are at full liberty to range through the field of opinion, and if in this diſcuſſion they ſhould be *well aware* that the bleſſings daily received from the Ruler of the Univerſe demanded from them as a ſociety, grateful and publick acknowledgments: That the frequently inculcating upon the minds of the community the great work of redemption, as well as the incomparable ſyſtem of moral precepts promulgated by its author, would probably make them better men and promote their temporal happineſs (for I will here carry the argument no further) what ſhall reſtrain them from availing their ſociety of theſe great aids, by eſtabliſhing places for this publick worſhip, providing for teachers calculated to the various modes of all denominations of Chriſtians, and compelling themſelves under a penalty to attend at ſtated periods, at ſome one of theſe places?

Why "It is the religion of the magiſtrate, the impious preſumption of "legiſlators and rulers, who being fallible and uninſpired men, by "impoſing their opinions on others, introduce falſe religions."

To argue from the abuſe of things, againſt their uſe, is idle and unſatisfactory, and if allowed would overturn every ſyſtem neceſſary to man, and even reſtrain him from food, becauſe poiſon hath been ſometimes found in it. The very terms of theſe objections ſhew them to have been borrowed from countries ſubject to a deſpot, whoſe ſingle will made the publick religion; this I am not concerned and much leſs inclined to juſtify, but inſiſt that the edicts of this deſpot reſpecting regulations of property, are equally cenſurable, and therefore no concluſion can be drawn from hence, to eſtabliſh a diſtinction between religious and civil regulations. Such inſtitutions as I have before propoſed if adopted by a majority, would be the religion of the people, and though ſuch majority muſt be fallible and uninſpired men, yet whether they or individuals in the minority are moſt likely to err, let common ſenſe determine; eſpecially as they only provide for reading and expounding the ſcriptures, which, and not the law, are made the rule of faith.

But "the mind is created free, has the Almighty Fiat to remain ſo, "and is inſuſceptible of reſtraint: Mens opinions are not in their power, "and all attempts to influence the minds by puniſhments or incapaci-"tations to office, tend only to make men hypocrites, and are a departure "from the ſyſtem of the author of our holy religion who did not coerce "it upon mankind, but left them to the influence of their reaſon."

The mind was alſo created innocent and loſt its character of freedom when it became depraved and ſubmitted to the dominion of unruly paſſions, and if under ſuch influence it be inſuſceptible of reſtraint, what end ſerves our boaſted reaſon, which I have been taught to conſider as the pilot of the paſſions and of courſe the mind ſubject to them. If I am told that the reaſon of each individual is to guide him, I anſwer though it may be ſo in things merely concerning himſelf, yet as a member of ſociety he muſt yield to the reaſon of a majority in things of common concern; for the diſtinction between civil and religious regulations as to the freedom of the mind, wants to be proved and is not to be taken for granted; I confeſs I cannot trace it, unleſs I ſuppoſe civil regulations to act only upon the body and not on the mind, which I cannot do, being taught by law and reaſon that in *offences* as well as *contracts*, the aſſent of the mind is neceſſary to give validity to the one and criminality to the other. Every law is a reſtraint upon the freedom of the mind, and whether the injuction hath for its object the worſhip of God and hearing the ſcriptures read and expounded, or to prevent murder, adultery, theft, perjury or coveteouſneſs, the root of moſt other injuries, the authority of the law is derived from the ſame ſource, the people, and its end the ſame their good. I admit the author of our holy religion did not uſe temporal force in its propagation, except in the inſtance of his having whipped the merchants out of the Temple for having profaned the place ſet apart for publick worſhip by the laws of their country, a circumſtance by the by, which proves him not unfriendly to ſuch regulations: He could not inforce obedience to his precepts by puniſhment in body or goods, without aſſuming that temporal kingdom he always diſclaimed, ſince the powers where he preached, were in oppoſition to him: However this by no means proves that a ſociety of Chriſtians forming regulations to promote their happineſs, may not make publick worſhip and inſtruction in Chriſtian principles, part of their code of laws. Incapacitation to offices have been generally carried too far, but are yet in ſome degree prudent to be adopted in every ſociety, that ſecret enemies may not overturn the ſtate, by having its direction; in the election of officers we exerciſe our judgment of the fitneſs of the candidate from appearances, yet all nations agree to go further and require from him the ſecurity of an oath for his attachment to the intereſt of the ſtate as well as fidelity in office, intended to reach the mind and make his ſecret as well as open conduct upright: Of this ſecurity you muſt deprive this ſtate unleſs you exact from your officers a teſt of their being Chriſtians, as a previous qualification, ſince it is to that you adapt your oath, and adminiſter it on the Evangeliſts, which gives it obligation upon the conſciences of Chriſtians, but none at all upon Jews, Mahomedans, Atheiſts, Deiſts, &c. and therefore when in the adminiſtration of juſtice it hath been neceſſary to examine any of theſe as witneſſes, Jews have been ſworn upon the Pentateuch, Mahomedans on the Koran, what Atheiſts or Deiſts ſhould be ſworn upon I know not, unleſs upon Hobbs's Leviathan or ſome ſuch favourite author; but as there cannot be a neceſſity for introducing theſe people into our offices, as I truſt we ſhall ever find Chriſtians of ability to fill them, ſo I hope not to ſee ſuch a medley of oaths adopted for their admiſſion. That there will after all be hypocrites profeſſing a religion they do not believe for the ſake of publick emoluments, we have too much reaſon to ſuppoſe; but ſince none but the Searcher of hearts can detect ſuch impoſtures, human legiſlatures will have gone as far as they can in requiring the profeſſion of religion; are in no worſe condition than if they had admitted the ſame man without this teſt; and I may again appeal to the ſame tribunal of common ſenſe whether he who acknowledges the divinity of the ſcriptures and believes a future ſtate of rewards and puniſhments, or he who diſregards both, are moſt likely to prevericate or temporiſe on ſuch an occaſion.

[*The remainder in our next.*]

PROVIDENCE, *Auguſt* 14.

THE privateer brigs Saratoga and Happy Return, Captains Munro and Wilſon, of this place, have taken a brig from New York, bound to Newfoundland, laden with rum, ſugar and ſalt, and ſent her into a ſafe port. On the 29th ult. Capt. Munro fell in with a letter of marque ſhip of 22 nine pounders, and after an engagement of 3 glaſſes, night coming on, he lay by to repair his rigging. Next morning the action was renewed with great warmth, and continued one glaſs, when the Saratoga's hull and rigging being much damaged by the ſuperiour force of the enemy, Capt. Munro was obliged to ſheer off; he had 8 men killed, and ſeveral wounded.

We juſt learn from Boſton, that the enemy at Penobſcot have received a reinforcement from New York, of eight ſhips, under the command of Sir George Collier.

PHILADELPHIA, *September* 1.

SINCE our laſt arrived here the brig Polly, Captain Bodkin, from London for New York, laden with flour, taken by Captain Taylor; and the ſloop Sall, Captain Hunt, from New York, taken by the privateer Holker, Captain Geddes

Sunday laſt came up to town the prize ſnow Diana, from Londonfor New York, taken off Sandy Hook by the Holker privateer, Captain Geddes.

On board the continental ſloop Argo, *Auguſt* 27, 1779.

SIR,

I SAILED from Providence in the ſtate of Rhode Iſland, by order of Major General Gates, on a cruiſe againſt the enemies of the United States the 2d inſtant, and on the 5th I ſaw a ſail and gave chaſe to her, after coming up with and bringing her too, I found her to be a ſchooner mounting 4 carriage guns, named the Count D'Eſtaing a prize to the brig King George, immediately after manning her, I made ſail and ſtood the courſe that I was informed by the priſoners, the King George bore.

On the 7th at two o'clock P. M. I obſerved a ſail ſtanding for us, and bore away for her, on approaching each other, ſhe diſcovered us to be a veſſel of force, and declined attacking us, and made off with all the ſail ſhe could pack, before the wind, but after 4 hours chaſe, I came up with her. She then made ready to engage us, and before I got along ſide of her, ſhe fired three broadſides, which I did not think proper to return, being determined to board her and riſque the fate of an action in that way, rather than engage at long ſhot, for fear during the action ſhe ſhould bring me by the wind; and in that caſe I was convinced ſhe would make her eſcape. I carried her without the loſs of a man; ſhe mounts 10 four pounders beſides cohorns and ſwivels, and was commanded by Stanton Hazard of Newport. I carried her into New London and landed my priſoners 30 in number. The ſchooner got into Bedford. I immediately ſtood out to ſea again. On the 24th I took, in company with the ſloop Revenge from New London, the ſloop Adventure Thomas Jackſon maſter, from Tobago bound to New York, ſhe had on board 94 hogſheads of rum. I manned her and ordered her to port. 25th I took in company with the above mentioned ſloop, the brigantine Eliot from London for New York, a large veſſel mounting 6 ſix pounders full ſtowed, her cabin not excepted, with dry goods, flour, butter, cheeſe and ſummons; I manned her and ſent her into port under the convoy of the Revenge. The ſame day I fell in with the brigantine Saratoga, James Munro Captain, an American cruiſer, and at 11 o'clock P. M. fell in with and was fired upon by a cutter from New York. Upon this it was agreed that I ſhould run down to the leeward of her, and bring on the attack, whilſt the Saratoga lay a hull, in order to make the Captain of the cutter ſuppoſe that ſhe was not a veſſel of force, until I had prevented a poſſibility of her eſcaping by getting to leeward of her. I begun the action with her and continued it three glaſſes before the Saratoga could come up to our aſſiſtance. The reaſon of this delay was, that in ſhipping her tiller, by miſtake, it was only entered into the rudder-caſe inſtead of the rudder-head, by which means the brig under all ſail went off before the wind from us, and it was a long time before any perſon could diſcover the reaſon that the brig would not ſteer to anſwer her helm. Upon the Saratoga's coming up and giving her a broadſide, they cried for quarters with great earneſtneſs. She mounts 10 double fortified 4 pounders, and had when the action began (as they ſay) 52 men, but we reduced them down to 48, and ſeveral of them were wounded, ſhe was commanded by Phenix Fagin. I had one man killed and ſix wounded. 26th, I took in company with the Saratoga, the brigantine Chance from London bound to New York. She had on board 100856 lb of bread, 447 buſhels and 4 gallons of peas, 337 buſhels and 4 gallons of oatmeal, 28528 lb. of beef, 28400 lb. of pork, 21380 lb. of flour, 7127 lb. of raiſins, 342 gallons and 7 pounds of olive oil, 901 gallons of vinegar and 8026 lb. of butter. The cutter and brig Chance, I have brought in with me. I parted with the Adventure and Eliot within one days ſail of New London with a fair wind to get in. I have brought in with me 70 priſoners. In the action with the cutter, I received a ſhot through my maſt; my boom is much wounded, my ſquare ſail yard is almoſt cut in two, and my ſails and rigging much damaged. The damage I had received and the large number of priſoners I had on board, made me judge it prudent to make the firſt harbour in my power.

I took two letters in the adventure directed to General Clinton from which I have extracted the following paragraph, "Certain it is, that the iſlands of St. Vincents and Grenada are in poſſeſſion of the French, and I fear through the bad conduct of Admiral Byron. There has been an action between Byron and Count D'Eſtaing, but our fleet got off with the loſs only of the Lyon." It is likewiſe added, that Admiral Barrington was wounded ſlightly, and that it was his ſquadron only that engaged; that Byron declined engaging the Count, and that it was thought the command would be taken from Admiral Byron by his officers. I ſhould have tranſmitted theſe letters to your Excellency, were it in my power; but I had ſent them, together with the invoices of the Chance and Adventure, to General Gates before I had any expectations of putting into this harbour. I am, your Excellency's moſt obedient and humble ſervant,

SILAS TALBOT.

JOHN JAY, *Eſq*; *Publiſhed by order of Congreſs,*
CHARLES THOMSON, *Sec'ry.*

The following is an inventory of her cargo, viz. 80 iron cannon, 2, 3, 4 and 6 pounders, with carriages and all other materials compleat; 60 ſwivels, 10 cohorns 3 pounders 6 cannonade 12 pounders, and 7000 round and bar ſhot, 155 half barrels of powder, 35 boxes, 26 caſks, 10 hogſheads, 5 caſes, 11 bundles, 1 ſheat of lead, 2 bales, 55 coils of cordage and 3 puncheons of naval ſtores for Goodrich. 32 boxes, 27 cheſts, 74 caſks, 6 hogſheads, 22 caſes, 16 trunks, 24 bales, 7 bundles, 6 baſkets, 10 firkins, 2 hampers, 4 kegs and 23 packages, about 555 packages in the whole; containing tea, loaf ſugar, cheeſe, ſoldiers clothing, ſail cloth, &c. with a great variety of merchandize.

The ſloop Terrible, with 118 puncheons of rum, from Jamaica. She was lately commanded by Captain Ervin, and bound to New York; but laſt Saturday night, being about 4 or 5 leagues from our capes, four of the ſailors ſecured the Captain and Mate, took poſſeſſion of the veſſel, and brought her ſafe in. She left Jamaica the firſt of Auguſt, in company with about 160 ſail of veſſels, but ſeparated from them in the gulf of Florida.

We learn that a large ſhip, one of the above fleet, run aſhore in the gulf, and was entirely loſt.

By the Jamaica Mercury of the 24th of July we learn, that the Lyon man of war, of 64 guns (one of Admiral Byron's fleet) arrived there in a ſhattered condition, having received very material hurt in her maſts, yards and rigging; that the carnage on board her was very conſiderable; that the accidental exploſion of a quantity of cartridges on the lower deck, proved the deſtruction of a great many men, that 50 had been already buried, and many ſtill remained badly hurt.

Extract of a letter dated Paris, *May* 25, 1779, *to a Gentleman in* Philadelphia.

"I have juſt received certain advice from a Gentleman in London, that the following is an account (to be depended on) of the whole force going to New York with Admiral Aburthnot.

"The ſquadron conſiſts of four ſhips of the line, all ſeventy fours,	
"Tranſports, with the Glaſgow regiment,	1168 men.
Edinburgh do.	1168 do.
N. B. New raiſed regiments.	
German recruits,	500 do.
Total	2834 men."

Extract of a letter from an officer on the northern expedition, dated at Co'os, *June* 28, 1779.

"Colonel Hazen with great part of the regiment, has advanced as far as the river la Moile, diſtant from hence about 40 miles, making a road and building block-houſes; intelligence received from Canada, by an officer of ——— regiment, ſent in as ———, is greatly in our favour, the inhabitants of that country are almoſt determined to a man to join us the moment we enter their territories. The fort at St. John's has a guard of a ſergent and 15 men only, the cannon are all diſmounted and ſent off, except one or two pieces unfit for ſervice. At Chamblee there is a lieutenant's guard of 30 men: At the three rivers they have a guard of 600, and at Montreal 100 men more, which are all the men ſtationed above Quebeck; this my friend is good news and nothing inferiour is it, that the enemy have deſtroyed or carried away the whole of their fleet on Lake Champlain, except two gallies, one of which mounts one gun only. This you may rely on."

WILLIAMSBURG, SEPTEMBER 11.

SINCE our laſt arrived at Hampton a French ſnow from Hiſpaniola, and the ſchooner Dean from Euſtatia, both with Weſt India commodities.

We are informed that Captain Benjamin Netherland, Junior, of Powhatan county, going to Portſmouth one day laſt week by water, unfortunately fell over board, and was drowned.

Yeſterday evening two French boys and a horſe were drowned in the mill-pond near this city.

By a veſſel in a very ſhort paſſage from the Weſt Indies, *we have the following intelligence.*

PARIS. Letters mention that a ſecond expedition was about to embark under the command of Marſchall Malleboiſs: that under Marſchall de Vaux expected orders to ſail every moment, which conſiſted only of 18 regiments, about 12000 men, and its diſtination ſuppoſed for Ireland. The former it ſeems is to be the grand armament, to be compoſed of 60,000 troops, and to be carried over to the Engliſh coaſt in 500 flat bottom boats and tranſports.

From BREST, *June* 21. All the preparations for embarking the troops are accompliſhed. Four hundred veſſels, of 200 tons burthen are ready for the embarkation. The armament of Monſieur de Vaux is augmented to 30,000 men and 6000 cavalry.

COWES, *June* 22. The maſter of a Dutch veſſel who put in here that afternoon, ſays, he yeſterday ſaw the grand fleet under Sir Charles Hardy off Scilly, all well, ſteering for the French coaſt.

June 23. Laſt evening an expreſs arrived at the Admiralty from Sir Charles Hardy, that he was in ſight of the French fleet off Ireland, the weſt coaſt, in the ſame packet letters came to Lord North, the meſſenger landed at Liverpool, and came poſt to London. Trade at preſent in the rivers is at a ſtand, on account of the hot preſs for ſeamen. The merchant ſhips cannot proceed on their voyages for want of hands.

Reſpecting the French and Spaniſh fleets, the following is given as authentick.

The French fleet of 28 ſail of the line, beſides frigates, ſailed from Breſt on the 4th of June, and two more ſailed after them on the 6th, on the 9th were ſeen (by a Swede arrived at England) 40 leagues S. W. from the Lizard, ſailing due ſouth. Twelve ſail of Spaniſh ſhips of the line, beſides frigates, ſailed from Cadiz on the 27th of May; and on the 2d of June, 20 more Spaniſh ſhips of the line, beſides frigates, ſailed from Cadiz; as theſe two Spaniſh fleets ſailed at different times, it is not ſuppoſed they were both intended to join the French fleet; that one of them has joined it, is univerſally believed, but which, and whither the other is gone, are circumſtances not yet known; but as 9 ſail more of the line are ready at Ferrol, it is imagined the ſmaller fleet is to act with the French fleet, becauſe it can be reinforced, and that the other is gone to the Weſt Indies.

LONDON, *June* 17. Expreſs is ſaid to be arrived from Sir Charles Hardy, with an account of his being in ſight of the French fleet.

June 22. This moment advice was received that the French fleet was off Uſhant the 19th ſteering to the weſtward, light winds under top-gallant, ſtudding ſails, and royals. A cutter from the fleet at Falmouth ſays the Spaniſh and French fleets had not joined; that Sir Charles was in moment expectation of ſeeing them. It is alſo aſſerted that expreſs arrived with an account that Sir Charles Hardy was in ſight of the French fleet, and that it conſiſted only of 26 ſail; and that when the expreſs came away, Captain Lockart had made a ſignal for an engagement, ſo that we hourly expect further intelligence.

What the opinion and deſigns of the preſent Miniſters are relative to the terms to be granted to the Americans, is not of very intereſting conſequence, as we are aſſured his Majeſty is determined they ſhall be ample, ſecure and honourable.

The meaſure of calling a Ruſſian ſquadron to the aſſiſtance of Great Britain, was in oppoſition to Lord Sandwich's opinion, he declared againſt it in the cabinet, and was firmly perſuaded we were ſingly a match for France, Spain, and America.

ST. KITTS, *June* 15. Yeſterday a melancholy accident happened in the road of Baſſaterre: The ſtore ſhip Supply, of 24 guns, by ſome unfortunate circumſtance took fire, and was ſoon in a blaze; her ſituation in the middle of the fleet, created a general confuſion; but by the prudence and activity of the reſpective commanders who cut and run, the miſchief was ſolely confined to herſelf, and ſhe drifted clear till ſhe ran on the rocks at Bluff Point, where ſhe continued burning till morning. This was the veſſel Lady Macartney had taken her paſſage in; but by this accident that excellent Lady's jewels, wearing apparel and baggage, were totally conſumed. The people were ſaved.

GOSPORT, *June* 21. His Majeſty's ſhip Pallas is ſailed from Spithead, bound to the Weſt Indies. She took under her convoy 12 ſail of ſhips bound to St. Kitts, the remainder of the fleet are at Spithead, and will ſail under convoy of the Leviathan, a 50 gun ſhip.

FALMOUTH, *June* 19. Our grand fleet, conſiſting of 50 ſail and upwards, paſſed by this morning with a good wind, ſteering weſtward. A French frigate of 36 guns appeared of Beachy head, and ſtood under Dungeneſs, where ſhe took a brig and ſtood over for the coaſt of France. Letters from France of the 17th inſtant adviſe, that the Breſt fleet had been ſeen off St. John Deluz, ſteering towards cape Ortugal.

JAMAICA *(Montego-Bay) June* 2. Laſt night his Majeſty's ſhip Glaſgow took fire in this harbour, and was entirely burnt; no lives loſt; no damage done to the ſhipping, though in extreme danger.

June 26. The privateer Experiment of this port, and her prize, are taken by the Minerva and another frigate. The fate of the Captain of this little veſſel of war is rather ſevere, having been accuſed of deſtroying the papers of one of his prizes, we hear he was ſent in irons on board of a Spaniſh man of war.

This morning Sir Charles Hardy hoiſted his flag on board the Victory of 100 guns.

Sir Hugh Palliſer is to have a conſiderable command in the fleet collecting at Spithead.

We can aſſure the publick, that five battalions of the brave troops now at St. Lucia, are to embark immediately under convoy of two 50 gun ſhips and ſome frigates, for South Carolina.

HOUSE of COMMONS. The bill for doubling the militia was read a ſecond time, which cauſed great debates &c. Mr. Fox obſerves we are left without a ſingle ally but the Landgrave of Heſſe and the Duke of Brunſwick, with whom a treaty had been made, which, at preſent, from our inability to keep the ſtipulations contained in it muſt be broken.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, *Auguſt* 31, 1779.

"A report prevails here which is not confirmed, but not improbable, that the expedition from Boſton againſt Penobſcot had failed, and that our little fleet of armed veſſels there, was on the arrival of Sir George Collier burnt, to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands."

☞ *The extravagant price which we at preſent give for paper, obliges us to raiſe the price of advertiſements to* TEN DOLLARS *the firſt week, and* SEVEN DOLLARS *each week after, long ones in proportion: It is requeſted of thoſe who ſend letters or advertiſements, to pay the poſtage of them, otherwiſe they will not be taken up.*

WAR OFFICE (*Williamſburg*) *September* 10, 1779.

THE Board of War hereby order Lieutenant *Daugherty* of the navy, to repair to this Board inſtantly, to anſwer for very unwarrantable conduct.

By order of the Board,
H. RANDOLPH, Clerk.

NANSEMOND county, *Auguſt* 10, 1779.

CAME to my houſe about ſeven weeks ago, a bright molatto fellow, about 6 feet high, almoſt naked; he came to my houſe very ſick, and is by ſome ſuppoſed to be poiſoned, he has been in my neighbourhood ever ſince the town of *Suffolk* was burnt, he calls his name *John Scott*, and ſaid he was bound an apprentice to *John Butler* of *Suſſex* county, who he ſays wanted to keep him longer than his apprenticeſhip. The owner if any, are deſired to take him away and pay charges.

(‖) JOHN JAMES.

STRAYED or ſtolen from the ſubſcriber in *Dumfries* the 24th of *Auguſt* laſt, a likely bay mare, upwards of 14 hands high, 3 years old laſt ſpring, branded on the near buttock I. C. a ſhort thin mane and ſwitch tail, paces, trots, and gallops, her hoofs very much worn. I will give ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD for the thief and mare, or SIXTY DOLLARS for the mare delivered to me, and reaſonable charges paid. (‖) WILLIAM LINTON.

STRAYED from *Swans Point* the 6th of *October*, a dark bay mare, 3 years old laſt ſpring, neither docked nor branded, or has ever been rode, ſhe was lately brought down the country, therefore I am apt to believe ſhe may endeavour to return to the place where raiſed. I will give 50 dollars to any perſon who will return her at the above mentioned place, or a ſum in proportion for information ſo that I get her again.

(‖) HARTWELL COCKE.

STOLEN out of my paſture near *Williamſburg*, on *Tueſday* night the 24th of *Auguſt*, a bay horſe 9 years old, in bad order, about 14½ hands high, with a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, his brand forgot, paces naturally had a very bad gall on the left ſhoulder, has ſome ſaddle ſpots. I will give TWENTY DOLLARS for information where he may be had, or ONE HUNDRED on conviction of the thief.

(‖) HUMPHREY HARWOOD.

FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD,

STOLEN out of my paſture in *Goochland*, the 26th of *Auguſt* laſt, at night, a fine blooded bright bay mare, 3 years old, 4 feet 10 inches high, has a ſmall ſtar in her forehead, neither docked nor branded, has remarkable neat legs, and trots well. Any perſon delivering the ſaid mare to me, or gives ſuch intelligence ſo that I get her again, ſhall have the above reward. (‖) PHILIP WEBBER.

WILLIAMSBURG, *September* 10, 1779.

THE ſubſcriber has for ſale, a large quantity of tanned and curried LEATHER of all ſorts, which he will ſell for ready caſh, or barter for corn or tobacco.—Orders from the country ſhall be punctualy complied with. (‖) W. PLUME.

To be SOLD by publick vendue for ready money, at the houſe of the ſubſcriber in Port Royal, *on* Monday *the* 1ſt *of* November *next, or the next fair day:*

SUNDRY houſehold and kitchen furniture in good order; particularly an elegant mahogany framed looking glaſs, the plate within the frame is 45 by 25 inches, a neat walnut cabinet, a genteel ſaloon lanthorn, tables, chairs, and a number of uſeful arucles.

ANDREW LECKIE.

(‖)

☞ Likewiſe will be ſold a likely *Virginia* born negro man.

To be SOLD purſuant to the laſt will and teſtament of John Armſtrong, *deceaſed, to the higheſt bidder, on* Wedneſday *the* 10th *of* November *next, and to be entered on at* Chriſtmas,

THE valuable tract of land whereon the deceaſed lately dwelled, containing about 500 acres; alſo the ferry on the ſouth ſide of *Dan* river, known by the name of *Boyd*'s ferry, the land lies on the river and is inferiour to none both of high and low grounds, there is a very fine plantation now in good order for cropping, there is a variety of fruit trees, amongſt which is an exceeding fine apple orchard, of excellent fruit. On ſaid land is a good dwelling houſe with four rooms on a floor, three good brick chimneys &c. Alſo a very good houſe, ſuitable for a ſtore houſe, with a good brick chimney, and a very fine cellar; there is alſo a good kitchen and all other convenient outhouſes, with a very good barn; in ſhort, it is attended with every conveniency that can make a tract of land valuable, is well known to be a very publick place, and convenient for almoſt any kind of trade. There will be ſold at the ſame time 6 very valuable ſlaves, amongſt which are a very good ferrymen. Alſo a number of very valuable horſes, a ſtock of good cattle, ſheep, hogs, &c. Alſo houſehold and kitchen furniture, and plantation utenſils, with a valuable waggon and gears for ſix horſes, &c. &c. Credit till the firſt of *May* next will be allowed for all ſums above twenty pounds, or the purchaſers giving bond and approved ſecurity to

(‖) SAMUEL PERRIN, CHARLES BURTON, DAVID BOYD, } Executors.

N. B. Any perſon inclinable to ſee the land, may be ſhewn the ſame by applying to *David Boyd* on the premiſes.

PETERSBURG, *September* 8, 1779.

I INTEND for the *Weſt Indies*, and to return immediately. (‖) JAMES ROSE.

AUGUST 29, 1779.

DESERTED, three of the recruits from *Prince William* county, to wit: ANDREW MURPHEY, an *Iriſhman*, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, well made, black hair, a large black beard, had on a round hat, brown cloth ſailors jacket, check ſhirt, and a pair of oſnabrug trowſers. JAMES MILLER, an *Engliſhman*, 5 feet 8 inches high, of a ſwarthy complexion, ſhort brown hair, curls before, well made, had on a white coarſe cloth jacket, cotton ſhirt, and oſnabrug trowſers. ROBERT WOODERFIELD, an *Engliſhman*, 5 feet 11 inches high, fair complexion, ſhort light hair, well made, much given to liquor, loſt his foreteeth, had on an old white ſhirt ſlit on the ſhoulders, a pair of bed ticking trowſers, and a pair of old ſhoes. Any perſon apprehending the above deſerters, ſhall receive 150 dollars, or 50 dollars for each upon delivery to (‖) WILLIAM LINTON.

FOR SALE,

TWO improved lots in the town of *Dumfries* in *Prince William* county, ſituate near the courthouſe, one has a houſe 64 feet by 24, a kitchen under it, with 2 cellars, 4 rooms on the lower floor, an entry, 4 fire places, 3 rooms above ſtairs, with 2 fire places; the other lot joining has a dwellinghouſe 28 feet by 18, 2 rooms below with fire places, and 2 above ſtairs with one fire place, a kitchen, ſmokehouſe, and ſtable, and an excellent well of water. For terms apply to the ſubſcriber.

(‖) FOUSHEE TEBBS.

FOR SALE,

A VALUABLE tract of land in *King William* county, containing 332 acres, about 4 miles from the courthouſe and has thereon a good dwellinghouſe, with all other neceſſary and convenient houſes, on a fine healthy and agreeable ſituation, an excellent apple and peach orchard, with the crop of corn now growing on it conſiſting of about 200 barrels, a good ſtock of hogs, and a great variety of plantation utenſils. I will treat with any Gentleman for the above privately, between this and *November King William* court, at which time, if it is not diſpoſed of, it will be expoſed to publick ſale.

(‖) THOMAS ROSE.

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS REWARD

FOR each of the following deſerters from the ſhip TARTAR, *viz. Matthew Nightengale, John Taylor, Ellis Edwards, Motto Pickerin, Patrick Hopkins, Thomas Mains, George Day*, and *Auguſtine Boyd*, all of *Wicomico* pariſh, *Northumberland* county; *Richard Timberlake* and *William Darby* of *Lancaſter* county; *John Baſs* of *Middleſex*; *John Marſhall, Daniel Grant*, and *Dennis Obrian*, there is reaſon to believe are gone to *North Carolina*. The above reward will be given for each of the above deſerters, on their being delivered on board any armed veſſel belonging to this ſtate.

THOMAS GRANT.

CHICKAHOMANY SHIP-YARD, *September* 10, 1779.

COMMITTED to the jail of *Cheſterfield* county, the 18th *of Auguſt*, a negro man who ſays his name is DICK, and that he belongs to the eſtate of *William Baggag* on *Green Briar*, who was killed by the *Indians*. The owner is deſired to take him away and pay charges.

(‖) ROBERT ELAM.

FOR SALE,

SEVERAL GOOD BEDS AND FURNITURE.

Apply to me in *King & Queen.*

(1) JOHN GARDNER.

On the 4th of October *next, will be rented to the highest bidder, at* Charlotte *courthouse, for one or more years, and entered on at* Christmas,

THE courthouse and ordinary, with all necessary and convenient houses for a publican, in good repair. This place is situated on the most publick road in the upper parts of this state, and is a very fine healthy and agreeable situation. At the same time and place will be rented, in manner as is above mentioned, an exceeding good dwelling-house, storehouse, and other necessary and convenient houses, well adapted for either a merchant or private Gentleman. This place is near and contiguous to the courthouse. Bond and approved security will, in both instances, be required by

(2f) MARY READ.

WAR OFFICE *(Philadelphia) July* 26, 1779.

WHEREAS the Board have received information from Col. *Bland*, commanding at the convention barracks, near *Charlottesville* in *Virginia*, that considerable desertions have taken place among the troops of the convention, many of whom leave the post with an intent to rejoin the enemy; all officers in the service of the United States are therefore directed to be vigilant in detecting and apprehending deserters from those troops. The civil officers in the respective states where such deserters may be found, are earnestly requested to give their assistance in securing them; and the well affected inhabitants will do essential service to their country, by taking into custody all *British* deserters travelling from the southward, and delivering them to the next Commissary of prisoners, or committing them to the nearest jail. A practice of administering the state oath of allegiance to deserters from the convention troops, and then supplying them with passes, has heretofore been too prevalent, and productive of very pernicious consequences, by affording them a safe and easy method of escaping to places in the possession of the *British* army. Those magistrates and other officers of justice, who have been induced to receive such oaths, and grant passes in consequence therof, are earnestly called upon to discontinue a practice so injurious to the states: And as those passes have been obtained merely with a design to facilitate their escape to the enemy, the soldiers possessed of them are notwithstanding to be secured, and treated as deserters. They are generally clad in short course linen coats or coatees, and linen overalls; and carry their regimental coats in knapsacks. The troops under the convention of *Saratoga* consist of the 9th, 20th, 21st, 24th, 47th, and 62d regiments, a detachment of the 33d regiment, Lord *Balcarris*'s corps, and the royal artillery, *British*; and of the *Brunswick* dragoons, regiments of *Reidesel, Barner, Rhetz, Specht, Hesse Hanau, Hessian* artillery and battalion of grenadiers, *German*. The regiments and corps are particularized, as the numbers and devices on the buttons of many of their uniforms may tend to discover the desertion of the owners. *By order of the Board,*

P. SCULL, *Secretary.*

WAR OFFICE *(Williamsburg) August* 20, 1779.

THE recruits, so soon as obtained from the counties as below, under the act of Assembly passed the last session, entitled *An act concerning officers, soldiers, sailors, and marines.* Also the new levies raised under another act passed the same session, intitled *An act for raising a body of troops for the defence of the commonwealth*, are to rendezvous at the respective places hereby pointed out, viz. From the counties of *Accomack* and *Northampton*, at *Bridge* town, *Amelia, Prince Edward, Powhatan, Charlotte, Mecklenburg, Lunenburg, Brunswick, Dinwiddie* and *Chesterfield*, at *Petersburg*; *Prince George, Surry, Southampton, Suffex, Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Norfolk*, and *Princess Anne*, at *Smithfield*; *Caroline, Hanover, King* and *Queen*, and *King William* at *New Castle*; *New Kent, Charles City, James City, York, Warwick, Elizabeth City*, and *Gloucester*, at *Williamsburg*; *Essex, Middlesex, King George, Lancaster, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Richmond*, and *Westmoreland*, at *Urbanna*. A field officer will attend the places of rendezvous for the purpose of reviewing and receiving the men enlisted under the last mentioned act of Assembly, and a commissary will receive orders for their proper accommodations.

By order of the Board,

JAMES INNES, *President.*

KING & QUEEN, *August* 26, 1779.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Capt. *Thomas Dudley*, deceased, late of *King & Queen* county, are desired to make immediate payment; and those who have any demands against the said estate, are requested to bring in their accounts properly proved, between this and the first day of *October* next, that they may be paid off. Not the smallest attention will be paid to those accounts which are brought in after the above date. (2f) ROBERT B. DUDLEY, THOMAS DUDLEY, } Executors.

HANOVER, *August* 18, 1779.

WHEREAS my wife *Mary Wright*, has for some time past absented herself from me, and neglected to give her assistance towards the support of her children; this is to forewarn all persons from trusting her on my account, or from purchasing from her, any part of my estate.

(2f) WILLIAM WRIGHT.

RICHMOND town, *August* 20, 1779.

THURSDAY the 23d of *September*, being the time appointed for the meeting of the CHATHAM ROPE YARD company, the members are requested to meet at Mr. *Gabriel Galt*'s in this place. Seine twine and other white work may, as well as tared rope, be had in any quantity at this yard. There are several fine seines just finished, completely fitted for immediate use. (3)

FOR SALE,

A pair of very likely young bay

GELDINGS.

For terms inquire of the Printers.

WILLIAMSBURG, *August* 28, 1779.

I INTEND to remove from this state shortly.

EDWARD CHARLTON.

NORFOLK county, *August* 14, 1779.

WE most earnestly request the claimants to the estate of Mr. *Thomas Claiborne*, deceased, to bring in their accounts without farther delay: We can assure them that we are of opinion, that that estate is sufficient to pay every just claim against it, but willing to pay respect to debts of the first dignity, determine us to fix the 1st day of *October* next, for the demands against that estate being made known to us, after which period, we shall proceed to pay off all just accounts that may be rendered.

(1) ARTHUR BOUSH, JOHN WILSON, } Executors.

FOUND in the woods near *South Quay*, on the 20th of *July* last (by the subscriber, who lives within 4 miles of *Southampton* courthouse) three horses with budgets and saddles on them, *viz.* A likely sorrel stallion, about 4 feet 10 inches high, has been shod all round, but lost all his shoes to one. Also a likely dark bay horse, about the same height of the stallion. Also a likely gray horse, with black mane and tail, about 4 feet 8 inches high, with his hind feet white half way to his knees. The first two appears to be young. The owner or owners are desired to prove their property, pay charges, and take them away immediately. (1) RICHARD RICKS.

HANOVER town, *August* 18, 1779.

TO be sold by the subscriber, the well known ordinary called *Cartwright*'s (containing by estimation 600 acres) situated on the main road that leads from *Williamsburg* to *Richmond*, *Page*'s warehouses, *Fredericksburg*, &c. Its situation for a tavern is equal to any road tavern in *Virginia*. That land is good for corn, wheat, or tobacco, and well timbered, there is a very necessary house for tavern keeping, the ordinary being large and commodious, with land cleared to work six hands to advantage. Whoever purchases the above, may have liberty to sow fall grain; if this place is not sold by the first day of *October* (when possession may be had) it will be rented for one or more years. For terms apply to me at *Hanover* town. (tf) RICHARD BURNLEY.

AUDITORS OFFICE, *August* 4, 1779.

WHEREAS divers sheriffs, county court clerks, and inspectors, some of them for several years have failed to settle with and pay to the Treasurer of this commonwealth, the taxes received by them, a list of the several persons so in arrear has lately been returned into the Auditors Office. The Auditors of Publick Accounts pursuant to the act of Assembly, do hereby call upon and require the said debtors, to render their accounts without delay, and on failing so to do, their names will be published in this paper, and the Attorney General be instructed to move for judgment against them. (6)

ELIZABETH CITY, *August* 29, 1779.

RUN away in *February* 1777, AMY, a short lean flat faced wench, about 45 years old, and formerly belonged to Mr. *Richard Sclater*, late of *Charles Parish*. TOM, a small thin faced fellow with large full eyes, and some of his foreteeth out, and run away in *September* last. GEORGE, a stout well made fellow, in kneed, very large under lip, and once belonged to the estate of Mr. *Gill Armistead*, late of *New Kent*. PEG, a black wench, about 40 years old, large red gums and wide mouth. *George* and *Peg* run away this month—I will give THIRTY POUNDS each for the two last, and FIFTY POUNDS each for *Tom* and *Amy*, if secured in any jail so that I get them again. *Tom* is out-lawed.

(tf) JOHN CARY.

STOLEN from the plantation of the Honourable *Robert C. Nicholas*, Esq; at *Westham*, the 23d of *July* last, in the night, two likely bay HORSES; the largest is about 5 feet high, with a star in his forehead, his mane has been roached, but is half grown out, short switch tail, hump back, droop rump, natural pacer, has been lately shod before, and branded on the near shoulder I T or I F, as well as I remember. The other about 7 years old, 14 hands high, with a long thin tail, and hanging mane. Whoever gives me, or Col. *George Nicholas* in *Hanover*, such intelligence that I get them again, shall receive a reward of THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS, and on conviction of the thief, so that he be brought to condign punishment, FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

(1) WILLIAM WALKER.

TAKEN up, in *James City*, about a twelvemonth ago, a pied heifer, with a crop, slit, and underkeel in the right ear, and a crop and slit in the left, has now with her, a calf. Posted, and appraised to 50l.

(1) JOHN HARRIS.

TAKEN up in the town of *Manchester, Chesterfield* county, a dark bay mare, about 4 feet 6 or 7 inches high, a hanging mane and switch tail, her left hind foot white as high as the footlock, has had a fistula, and a small nick in her left ear, a small white streak on her neck, occasioned by a rope, no brand perceivable. Posted, and appraised to 45l. (1) MOSES TREDWAY.

TAKEN up at my plantation in *York* county, a brown mare, about 13¼ hands high, branded on the near buttock F I. The owner is desired to prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

SEYMOUR POWELL.